Shasta West Watershed Assessment

Western Shasta Resource Conservation District





A restoration plan will be created after studying streams within the project area.

Purpose

The purpose of this project is to conduct a watershed assessment to document the existing conditions of the Upper Clear Creek watershed in Western Shasta County, laying the groundwork for the development of a comprehensive watershed management plan.

Project Goals

- Gather and document existing data for five streams in Western Shasta County.
- Assess the effect that watershed conditions may have on anadromous fish species and beneficial water uses.
- Identify data gaps.

Award Amount \$131,600

Watershed

Shasta West Watershed

County

Shasta County

CALFED Region

Sacramento Valley Region

Legislative Districts

US Congress: 2 State Assembly: 2 State Senate: 4

Benefits to the CALFED Program

CALFED's Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan (ERPP) states that "an investment in the Clear Creek watershed will provide direct benefits to the creek and provide the types of restoration information needed to move the ERPP into subsequent implementation phases successfully." The Shasta West Watershed Assessment is an important first step in assessing conditions and developing a plan for restoration and improvements of these watersheds. This assessment will lead to the development of a comprehensive watershed management plan that will identify a number of measures, including erosion control, reduction of forest fuels, and urban runoff control to improve water quality and increase habitat for endangered and threatened fish species in the Bay-Delta Watershed.

Project Overview

Shasta County streams flow into the Sacramento River and continue to the Bay-Delta system. The health of these northern streams is directly connected to the health of the Bay-Delta. Additionally, the Western Shasta County watersheds are home to a number of important threatened and endangered anadromous fish species, including Chinook salmon and steelhead.

This project entails conducting a watershed assessment for streams located in the western portion of Shasta County, which includes Middle, Salt, Rock, Olney, and Canyon Creeks. These watersheds are tributaries to Clear Creek and home to a number of important species, including steelhead, salmon, and rainbow trout. However, urban development and the threat of wild fires threaten the habitat of these species. An assessment is key to developing and implementing a long-term comprehensive plan to restore ecological health and improve water management. The assessment focuses on land use, hydrology, water quality, stream channel morphology, fisheries and aquatic habitat, sediment sources, transportation development, and recreation. Information and data are being gathered to document existing conditions within the county's western watersheds. The assessment will provide clear direction to the Resource Conservation District; federal, state, and local agencies; and other stakeholders during the next phase: developing a watershed management plan and implementing on-the-ground projects.



An area of dense vegetation such as this creates fire hazard within the watershed.

Contact Information

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